

When Should You Report Workplace Injuries?

Hint: Immediately and Always

Message from Mike Wisherop, 13 July 2016



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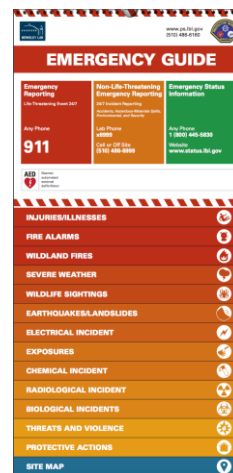
Is it human nature to avoid seeing a doctor? It seems so; particularly for minor injuries. Some feel they can tough it out, others might be embarrassed that they got injured in the first place and others might think it will make their PI or their Division look bad by recording an injury on “the books.” **The truth is, it’s in everyone’s best interest if all injuries, no matter how minor, are reported immediately.** Injuries that are not reported may get worse and end up resulting in unnecessary pain, extended recovery time, work restrictions and days away from work. Reporting can also help us find solutions to prevent another, similar injury in the future.

Call 911 for serious injuries/illnesses (life threatening or requiring urgent medical attention) such as: uncontrollable bleeding, electrical shock, trouble breathing, slurred speech, loss of consciousness, vision problems and personality changes.

For nonlife-threatening injuries or illnesses at work, report it to your LBNL supervisor as soon as possible. If your supervisor is unavailable call Health Services at X6266 or go to Building 26.

Health Services works quickly to evaluate injuries/illnesses, administer treatments within their capabilities and for minor injuries, get you back to work. Health Services is open between 7 AM and 4:30 PM Monday through Friday (except Lab Holidays).

For nonlife-threatening injuries/illnesses after Health Services business hours, dial X6999, and the LBNL Duty Officer will coordinate necessary medical support. Remember to report the injury or illness to your supervisor and Health Services the next business day.



Report to Health Services before returning to work after any injury or illness resulting in hospitalization or resulting in five or more days away from work, even if it’s not work related.

For more information about what you need to do in cases of workplace injuries, illnesses and other potential emergencies, refer to the posted **Emergency Guide** located on walls in technical and common areas throughout MSD buildings.

Thank you,

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